

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Page 3 of the Final Office Action indicates that claims 42 and 43 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the preceding claims listing, objected claims 42 and 43 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claim, claim 41, from which these claims directly depended. It is therefore believed that claims 42 and 43 are allowable.

Claim 44 has been amended to depend from amended claim 42. A new claim 45 is substantially identical to amended claim 44, but depends from amended claim 43. Claims 44 and 45 depend from allowable claims, and accordingly are also believed to be allowable.

Page 4 of the Office Action indicates that claims 20 to 22 and 34 to 40 are allowed.

Rejected claim 41 has been cancelled. It should be noted, however, that claim 41 has been cancelled solely to advance the examination of the application. Applicant in no way concedes that claim 41 is unpatentable.

All of the claims 20 to 22, 34 to 40, and 42 to 45 remaining in the application include subject matter that has been identified in the Final Office Action as being allowable. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and early action to this effect is earnestly solicited.

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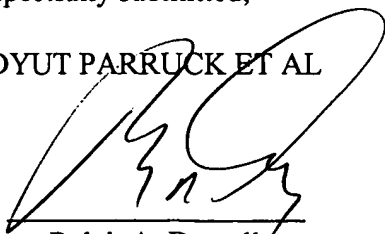
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Respectfully submitted,

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By


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